

Conversation No. 773-1

Date: September 8, 1972
Time: 9:28 am - 10:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with H.R. ("Bob") Haldeman.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 9m 40s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

The President's conversation with Charles W. Colson on
Watergate

- Lawrence F. O'Brien, Jr.
- Court case
- Edward Bennett Williams
- Depositions
- Howard Johnson Motel
- Location to Watergate
- Indictment

1972 Presidential campaign

- George S. McGovern
- McGovern's charges
- Duluth, Minnesota
- Story
- Soviet Union grain deal
 - Activities of administration
- Continental Grain Company
 - Clarence D. Palmy
- Grain deal and knowledge of farmers
 - Supply of grain and price of grain
- Response
- Tactics of McGovern's campaign
 - Ohio
- O'Brien
- The Administration's response
 - The President's instructions

John D. Ehrlichman's staff
-O'Brien tax investigation
-Amount of retainer [from Howard R. Hughes]
-Murray M. Chotiner
-George P. Shultz

The Committee to Reelect the President [CRP] headquarters
-1701 Pennsylvania Avenue
-Price of meat

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 3m 36s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

Watergate issue
-Depositions
-O'Brien
-Depositions
-White House staff
-Burglars
-Indictments
-Time

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 1m 31s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

Previous presidents
-Public relations

- Drinking habits
 - Lyndon B. Johnson
 - Harry S Truman
 - The President
 - Dwight D. Eisenhower
 - John F. Kennedy
 - Johnson
 - Truman
 - Poker games
 - Johnson
 - Press
 - Press
 - Administration policy
 - The President's view
 - John F. Osborne
 - Party for press
 - Executive Office Building
 - Osborne
 - Press story

Watergate

- CRP
- Indictments
- The President's attitude
- Deposition

Wholesale Price Index

- Adjusted figures
- Unadjusted figures
 - Department of Agriculture
- Meat prices
 - Price freeze
 - Donald H. Rumsfeld
 - Cable to retail chains
- Bread prices
 - Price freeze
 - Price commission
- Shultz
 - Date
 - Presidential gifts
 - Anniversary of August 15, 1971 economic action
 - Camp David
 - John B. Connally
 - Shultz
 - Arthur F. Burns
 - Herbert Stein
 - Four leaf clovers
 - Watch

Council on International Economic Policy [CIEP]
-Forthcoming meeting with executive committee
-Peter M. Flanigan
-Republican National Convention
-Announcement
-Henry A. Kissinger's presence
-The President's view
-1972 election
-Forthcoming meeting
-Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

James R. ("Jimmy") Hoffa
-Kissinger's meeting with Harold J. Gibbons
-Administration's reactions
-White House
-International Brotherhood of Teamsters
-William L. Taub
-Meeting with Kissinger
-Parole board
-Taub
-Richard G. Kleindienst
-Parole restrictions
-Travel restrictions
-Hoffa's possible trip to North Vietnam
-William P. Rogers
-Passport cancellation
-Haldeman's view
-Possible Hoffa press conference
-The President's view
-Kissinger's actions
-Ronald L. Ziegler
-Hoffa
-Trip to North Vietnam
-Cancellation
-Pierre Salinger
-Passport
-Rogers
-Colson
-Frank E. Fitzsimmons
-Kissinger's meetings with Gibbons

W. Ramsey Clark

Eugene J. McCarthy
-Possible position
-Corporation for Public Broadcasting
-Thomas B. Curtis

- Nicholas Johnson
 - Federal Communications Commission [FCC]
- McCarthy
 - Type of position
 - Connally
- Dean Burch
 - Forthcoming resignation
 - Appointment of Democrat or Republican
 - Democrat endorsement
- Possible position
 - FCC
 - Connally
 - Johnson
 - Burch
 - Richard E. Wiley
 - Republican
 - Role
 - Support of the President
 - Johnson
 - Work at FCC
 - The President's view

- Revocation of Hoffa's passport
- Rogers
 - Colson
 - Kleindienst
 - Taub
 - Clerk in Passport Office
 - Call to Kleindienst
 - Clerk's reaction

- Williams
- Washington lawyers
 - List
 - Democrats for Nixon
 - Kissinger
 - Meetings with people
 - Flanigan
 - Administration policy
 - Airlines
 - Georgetown lawyers
 - List of individuals
 - Bryce N. Harlow
 - The President's instructions
 - Colson's office
 - Washington Democratic lawyers and lobbyists
 - Administration's response
 - Washington Redskins

- Stadium
- Ehrlichman
- Administration's own lawyers
- Clark M. Clifford's clientele

Administration activities for second term

- 1972 election
- Colson
 - Establishing a Nixon-Washington establishment
 - Defense against opposition
- Chotiner
 - The President's view
- Colson
 - Haldeman's view
 - Internal Revenue Service [IRS] material
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI] material

Personnel management

- Press relations
 - Colson
 - Herbert G. Klein
- Counsellor title
- Leonard Garment
- CIEP
 - The President's view
- White House staff
 - Haldeman's view
 - Domestic Council
 - Ehrlichman
 - Creation of work
 - Size of Kissinger's staff
 - The President's view
- Executive office
 - Size
 - Cabinet members
- Press relations with administration
 - Klein
 - Washington Post*
 - Individual reporters
 - Ziegler
 - Opposition to the administration
 - The President's instructions to Haldeman
 - Lyndon K. "Mort" Allin
 - Patrick J. Buchanan
 - Kenneth R. Cole, Jr.
 - List of Washington reporters and media people
 - Type
 - Content

- Stories and predictions on Nixon-McGovern race
- Joseph C. Kraft
- Story on Nixon
- Buchanan
- Allin
- Individuals on list
 - Vietnam War reporting
 - Kraft
 - James B. ("Scotty") Reston
- Ziegler
 - Defense of the President
 - Press conferences
- Colson
 - Possible role
 - Haldeman's role
 - Reactions
 - Location in District of Columbia [DC]
 - Power structure
 - Colson's future location

Hoffa

- State Department
- Possible press conference
- Kissinger
 - Cooperation
 - Celebrities
- Call from Harvard University professors

The President's schedule

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 5

[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 3m 9s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 5

White House staff

- Alexander P. Butterfield
- Secretary to the Cabinet
- Maxwell M. Rabb
- Responsibilities

- Cabinet meetings
- Reason for meetings
- Leadership for meetings
- Colson
 - Forthcoming Cabinet meeting
 - Profile on Louis P. Harris poll
 - Strengths of the President's administration
 - Vietnam issue
 - Newspaper coverage
 - William E. Timmons
- Butterfield
 - Role as coordinator
 - Briefing for Ziegler
 - Information for public

Murder of Israeli athletes at Olympic Games in Munich, Germany

- Administration's response
 - Kissinger
 - Haldeman staff meeting
 - Haldeman's view
- Foreign affairs
 - US position on Egypt and Lebanon
 - McGovern's position
- Press coverage
 - Specific issue dominating newspapers
 - Time duration
 - Compared to coverage on Lt. William L. Calley, Jr.
 - Effect on McGovern's campaign
 - The President's response
 - Jewish issue
 - Memorial service
 - The President's attendance
 - Edward M. Kennedy
 - Jacob K. Javits
 - Abraham Ribicoff
 - Herbert Stein
 - Kennedy's attendance

Secret Service protection for Kennedy

- Robert Newbrand
- Responsibilities
 - Type of protection
 - Orders
- William L. Duncan
 - Protection orders
- Newbrand

Haldeman left at 10:20 am.